THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN
(USPS 630-800)
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
IN THE HEART OF VIRGINIA'S DARK TOBACCO BELT
Appomattox, Virginia 24522
ESTABLISHED IN 1922

W. Lloyd Vaughan.....Publisher and Editor
Beck Hudson.....News Editor

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to The Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Virginia 24522

Subscription rates: $6.00 a year in Appomattox, and all adjoining counties, $7.00 elsewhere in Virginia, Outside Virginia $7.50, payable in advance.
Member: Virginia Press Association

Single Copy: 15 cents

A Parent Shares Experiences With Mental Illness

Where does one begin in trying to explain something that is almost impossible to explain, unless one has walked in the same shoes?

I wonder just how many people have ever felt a great lonliness and a feeling of total rejection by society? The desire to belong and yet never feeling accepted. I am sure there are a great number of people who feel this and many are right here in this community. How many persons try to look behind the "attention getting" things and try to understand the reason for this action, and try to help this person understand what they are doing - in other words show them that they care about them, and try to help. If you have ever felt the full impact of not belonging and of total rejection, then I am sure you can understand a part of what I am trying to say. I have felt this, and so has my son.

None of us know our breaking point - just how much guilt feelings or rejection that we can take before that breaking point comes - There is more and more pressure put upon the younger generation today, than ever before, both by their peers and also by and to each other, and it is from the very top level of government showing them the dirty tactics and corruption uncovered almost every day, on down to a fellow classmate. Each is struggling to out-do, out-bragg and out-push their way to the top, and many without the thought of who is being hurt in the process. It seems like people just don't take the time to care and help - everyone becomes so involved with their own life and struggles to get ahead, that the feelings of the fellowman has been thrown by the way-side. I am truly grateful, that God never left my side during the very trying and difficult times that we have been through. He is one that can be counted on at any and all times - through good and bad.

One of the great problems in our world today, is mental illness and it is one that needs a great deal of help and much understanding. People don't want to talk about it, yet it is no different than any disease, as that is exactly what it is - a disease and needs the proper treatment. It seems however, that it is one of the most difficult one to get help for - that is when you are seeking help for a person who has lost all ability to seek help for themselves,or to understand that they can be helped. It is a very difficult thing to see a person slowly destroying their own life, and to lose all desire for living, because they feel that no one cares, and it is harder yet to understand why help is so difficult to receive, or to be told just what direction to take to seek help. When one cares about their fellow human beings, and try to help in any way possible, it is a very self satisfying thing, but when fellow human beings do nothing to help, then it makes me wonder just what this world is all about today.

There is a very great need for more help for the mentally ill, and places to go at a reasonable fee, and people who truly care. All of the wealth in the world can not buy one's health and happiness, and when we leave this world, it is all left behind - each of us leaves exactly as we came, with nothing of material value, but if we know within ourselves that we have helped our fellow human beings through our short stay here, then we take with us the richest treasure we can - knowing that we did care for other and helped them, just as God cares for us and helps us.

It is sad indeed to have had this great tragedy happen in our area. What a great need this man must have had, and how he must have reached out for help in his way, and did not receive it. There are so many indications given to people that one is asking for help in the only way they are able to and the public needs to be more aware of these indications.

There is so much more that needs to be said about mental illness and I hope that people will start thinking about it and open their minds to the fact that it is all around us and needs to be discussed openly and not whispered about in dark corners, as it is nothing to be ashamed of. It could happen to anyone at anytime and all of us need to be aware of that cry for help that those people are giving in the only way they are capale of at the time.

I want to take this opportunity to apologize publically to any and all that might have been hurt by my son during his great struggle with mental illness. We all are truly sorry.

Dorothy Ferguson

REPORT OF CONDITION
Consolidating domestic subsidiaries of the
FIDELITY AMERICAN BANK NA of LYNCHBURG

IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA, AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON JUNE 30, 1979 PUBLISHED IN RESPONSE TO CALL MADE BY COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY, UNDER TITLE 12, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 161.

ASSETS	Thousands of dollars
Cash and due from depository institutions	$100,739
U.S. Treasury securities	10,996
Obligations of other U.S. Government agencies and corporations	45,782
Obligations of States and political subdivisions in the United States	50,795
Other bonds, notes, and debentures	136
Federal Reserve stock and corporate stock	571
Trading account securities	921
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell	57,143
Loans, Total (excluding unearned income)	$396,143
Less: Allowance for possible loan losses	$ 4,864
Loans, Net	391,279
Lease financing receivables	3,023
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures, and other assets representing bank premises	17,211
Real estate owned other than bank premises	177
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies	None
Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding	1,306
Other assets	6,432
TOTAL ASSETS	686,412
LIABILITIES	
Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	$109,839
Time and savings deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	362,775
Deposits of United States Government	646
Deposits of States and political subdivisions in U.S.	33,357
Deposits of foreign governments and official institutions	None
Deposits of commercial banks	4,310
Certified and officers' checks	3,609
Total Deposits	514,586
Total Demand deposits $127,314	
Total time and savings deposits $387,372	
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	92,619
Interest-bearing demand notes (note balances) issued to the U.S. Treasury	4,313
Other Liabilities for borrowed money	8,844
Mortgage indebtedness and liability for capitalized leases	7,889
Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding	1,306
Other liabilities	9,648
TOTAL LIABILITIES (excluding subordinated notes and debentures)	640,225
Subordinated notes and debentures	5,000
EQUITY CAPITAL	
Preferred stock No. shares outstanding (par value)	None None
Common Stock No. shares authorized 614,064 No. shares outstanding 614,064 Par value	6,141
Surplus	12,087
Undivided profits	22,139
Reserve for contingencies and other capital reserves	None
TOTAL EQUITY CAPITAL	41,187
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY CAPITAL	686,412
MEMORANDA	
Amounts outstanding as of report date:	
Standby letters of credit	
Standby letters of credit, total	2,238
Amount of standby letters of credit conveyed to others through participations	None
Time certificates of deposit in denominations of $100,000 or more	88,993
Other time deposits in amounts of $100,000 or more	None
Average for 30 calendar days (or calendar month) ending with report date:	
Cash and due from depository institutions	93,573
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell	58,422
Total loans	392,318
Time certificates of deposits in denominations of $100,000 or more	34,077
Total deposits	505,223
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	104,916
Other liabilities for borrowed money	8,844
TOTAL ASSETS	685,337

I, Vincent A Laverty, Assistant Controller, of the above-named bank do hereby declare that this Report of Conditions is, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
VINCENT A LAVERTY
July 26, 1979

We, the undersigned directors attest the correctness of this statement of resources and liabilities. We declare that it has been examined by us, and to the best of our knowledge and belief is true and correct.
Directors
R. C. BALDWIN, JR.
J. S. FORSHAND, JR.
J. C. CHAPMAN

The Pastor Speaks

"He first found his brother, Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus." (John 1:41,42)

GOOD NEWS

When John saw Jesus, he cried out, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" This announcement represented the climax of his life. When Andrew had news, he had to tell his brother. When Philip had news, he found Nathaneal to let him know.

Bad news, or even unfounded gossip, often travels with the speed of sound.

Good news may travel on winged feet, expecially if it is good enough. Among the thirsty how fast would news of water travel, or the news of food among the starving, or word of liberation among prisoners, or the means of sight among the blind? So fast may the news of the gospel travel among those who realize their need for the Savior.

The understanding of the dimensions of this need grows with the knowledge of Jesus Christ. When Andrew met Jesus he knew that Jesus was exposing and meeting a need of his, a need whose extent he had never adequately fathomed, and he knew Simon would be likely to have a similar experience if he were willing to investigate. Philip was more than ready to give the word to Nathaneal in hopes that he would come and see for himself.

There are other means of spreading the news, but can any be so speedy or so persuaive as the zealous conviction and the personal message of a trusted friend? Next time the grapevine calls for you to pass on a message, whether it be truth or rumor, take advantage of it to pass on instead the love of Christ that you have experienced, or the truth of God's word in Scripture that speaks to a particular situation. There are many who need to hear and would love to come and follow to hear more.

Kitch Shatzer, Pastor
Concord Presbyterian
Beale Memorial Presbyterian

The Bible And Daily Living

By: Dr. William Trimyer

FATHERLY LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Lesson for August 5, 1979
Background Scripture: Hosea 11:1-4
Focal Passage: Hosea 14

I will heal their faithfulness; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be as the dew to Israel . . . (Hosea 14:4-5a)

Hosea's Marital Struggle

The Bible is a book for humans! The authors of the Bible often poured out their souls to express their faith and personal struggles. Hosea's personal sharing of his struggling marriage is a moving demonstration of how one Bible author used his own experience to dramatize God's love for his people. Hosea's experience is a story of tears and deep grief.

Hosea's wife (Gomer) chose to adulterize their marriage by being unfaithful to Hosea. The pain and anguish this act brought to Hosea was great. The general response to such an action is to withdraw from the relationship. But Hosea chooser to adopt a forgiving attitude towards his wife.

Hosea's intentional sharing of this painful passage in his life is to draw attention to the unfaithfulness of Israel towards God. Hosea's story has a positive, happy ending with his wife's return. The message is that Israel may also enjoy a happy ending by setting her relationship right with the Lord.

God Loves His People

Chapter 11 of Hosea is a beautiful description of a father's love for his child. Most fathers care deeply about their children and what happens to them in life. It's a feeling that is hardly ever lost. Children have a way of getting next to their parents. Parents and children often hurt each other.

Time and again the practice of love and forgiveness must enter the relationship between a child and his parents. Parents sometimes agonize over the brokeness they may experience with their children.

Hosea aptly describes for us the pain God experiences when his children cease to love and depend on him. Some may think that God has no feelings, but God feels deeply about you and me. Because we exist he loves us!

The Road to Forgiveness

Parents and children must practice forgiveness and honesty if their relationship is to grow. Too often it is a one-sided relationship in which the parent exercises authority but very little asking for forgiveness. We parents don't always do right by our children. We sometimes relate to them in ways that put them down rather than affirm and lift them up.

Hosea's message to the people of Israel is that God will turn and forgive if Israel will come clean of idolatrous worship. He uses the picture of healing and love to describe God's response to those who turn to him.

"I will be as the dew . . ." Dew is a refreshing drink to parched and thirsty vegetation. It brings back to life the grass that is withered from the heat of the sun. God's love and forgiveness is like a refreshing spring rain. Nothing feels any better than to experience a happy reunion of two alienated persons. It is likewise a good feeling to know that God loves and forgives us when we are ready to return.

God is in the business of healing and mending the brokenness which exists between lovers, families, communities, and even churches. The only requirement is that we turn back and embrace that love which knows no limits.

Dr. Trimyer is pastor of Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin City, Va.

Hollywood Acteens Held July Meeting

The Acteens of Hollywood Baptist Church held their July meeting on the 25th of the month at Carol Ann Jennings' home.

It was decided that on August 18th we will have a "White Elephant Sale" at Triangle Plaza Shopping Center. Plans were started for a bake sale in early September.

The mission program was led by Pam Franklin. After the meeting was closed, we were served delicious refreshments. We wish to thank Mrs. J. C. Jennings for inviting us into her home and making us feel so welcome.

The next meeting of the Hollywood Acteens will be held on August 29th at the home of Vivian Seay.

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photo by Robert E. Pankey

Class of 1944 Holds Reunion

The graduating class of 1944 of Appomattox High School recently held its 35th class reunion at the John Mosby Inn in Appomattox.

Attending members and teachers were, front row, left to right, Mrs. Helene Welch Harvey, teacher; Mr. William C. Dudley, teacher; Florence Layne Johnson, Frances Cralle Hill, Lucille Sweeney Cyrus, and Doris Moore Chinnes; second row, left to right, Frances Jennings Dyess, Catherine Page Crawford, J. D. Ferguson, Maurine O'Brien Hockman, Elaine Phelps Bollinger, Alice Johnson Moses, and Lillian Spiggle Love; and on back row, left to right, Allen Torrence, Kenneth Coleman, Wallace Haley, Frances Maddox Travis, David Martin, Robert Wheeler and Thomas Hanenkrat.

All members attending and guests enjoyed the reunion and are planning for their 40th get-together in five years.

Attending the Virginia State Beekeepers Association meeting here Saturday were, left to right, Homer Powers, State Apiarist and Head State Bee Inspector; Linwood Sweet, President of the State Association; and Dr. Richard Fell, Extension Agent, VPI & SU, guest speaker for the program.

Beekeepers Met Here Saturday

The Virginia State Beekeepers Association held their annual picnic meeting here at the Woodmen of the World Building Saturday.

President of the Association, Linwood Sweet, presided over the business meeting. Homer Powers, State Apiarist and Head State Bee Inspector, reported that a clinic would be held in Maryland in the month of September on "bee venom" and its effect on arthritis.

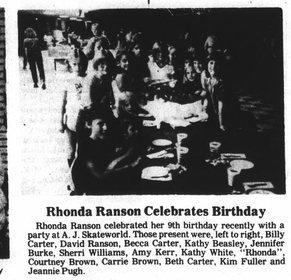
Dr. Richard Fell, Extension Agent, VPI & SU, was guest speaker for the day.

He told the group of his duties at VPI & SU and spoke on the story of pollution and the bad name people are giving bees on strings. Dr. Fell stated that it has been proven that 90% of stings people get are from wasps and bumble bees and other insects, not from the honey bee.

Approximately 130 persons attended the annual meeting and were welcomed by the mayor of the town of Appomattox, Ronald Spiggle.

Joyce Wilkerson, a lady from England, was present at the meeting and, naturally, she came from the longest distance.

In the afternoon there was a "gadget corner", a Queen Bee auction and a honey show with prizes awarded.



Rhonda Ranson Celebrates Birthday

Rhonda Ranson celebrated her 9th birthday recently with a party at A. J. Skateworld. Those present were, left to right, Billy Carter, David Ranson, Becca Carter, Kathy Beasley, Jennifer Burke, Sherri Williams, Amy Kerr, Kathy White, "Rhonda", Courtney Brown, Carrie Brown, Beth Carter, Kim Fuller and Jeannie Pugh.

Local Student Participating In Summer Program at LC

Miss Pamela Guill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Richard Guill, Route 2, Appomattox is participating in the Hopwood Summer Scholarship Program being offered by Lynchburg College in Lynchburg.

Taking part in the program are high school students who will be seniors in 1979-80 and who were in the upper 20 per cent of their junior classes.

Instructors for the summer short course program are regular members of the Lynchburg College faculty.

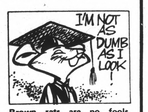
Students may choose this summer from courses in Egyptian art from the time of King Tutankhamun, photography, nursing and health care, philosophy and chemistry. Or they may be introduced to the field of business administration, the fundamentals of acting, have conversations with a computer or construct circuits which are the bases of computers, digital clocks, and other digital electronic devices. Or students may examine the origins of folk music in the United States, concentrate on the elements of music, or get an overview of some of the educational and therapeutic objectives of music education for children with developmental disabilities. They may also focus on the last days of the Civil War, or study human memory and perception.

Several of the courses include field trips. In addition, students are having a chance to visit with faculty members and LC students and to participate in sports and other recreational activities.

Remarked Dr. James A. Huston, dean of the College: "We see this as an opportunity for high school students to learn something about College work firsthand, and it will provide the College an opportunity to make selections for a series of major scholarships on the basis of a sample of actual college performance as well as on high school records, test scores, and recommendations. At the same time, it is a learning experience which can have great value in itself for each participant."

The Program began July 29 and will conclude August 4. Up to 20 percent of the participants will be chosen for Hopwood Scholarships (named for the College's founder and first president) by a special committee appointed by Dr. Carey Brewer, president of LC. These scholarships are made possible by the T. Brady Saunders Scholarship Fund.

The late T. Brady Saunders was a Virginia industrialist and a long-time member of the College's board of trustees. He was vitally interested in the educational needs of young people and felt that the private economic sector had a responsibility for insuring the continuing strength of privately endowed institutions such as Lynchburg College.



Brown rats are no fools. Once a few of their number are killed by poison, older rats sniff what's laid out for them and warn the others.

"The man must be very ignorant, for he answers every question he is asked." Voltaire

"Those who despise money will eventually sponge on their friends." Chinese Proverb

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You can also take these two big energy-saving steps. First, set your home air conditioning at 78° or higher, or not more than 15° cooler than the temperature outside. Second, don't overwork your water heater. Use the dishwasher and washing machine only for full loads, and wash clothes in cool water instead of hot.

By following these tips, you'll be keeping your power bills down, and helping us all make it through the summer without power shortages.

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